



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

Testing strategy for Pontes Initial Launch



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Agenda

- 1 Introduction: Testing in Eurosystem Projects
- 2 Pontes Initial Launch Timeline, Testing Deliverables and Status
- 3 Information about Eurosystem Acceptance Testing (EAT) Preparation
- 4 Participation in Testing



Introduction: Testing in Eurosystem Projects

- ✓ Several testing stages:
 - Internal **A**cceptance **T**esting (IAT),
 - Eurosystem **A**cceptance **T**esting (EAT),
 - Central **B**ank **T**esting (CBT),
 - **U**ser **T**esting (UT)
- ✓ Overlapping phases, in general executed in different test environments
- ✓ Different actors per stage

Testing in Pontes Initial Launch

Internal Acceptance Testing (IAT)



Actors for testing phases:

IAT:

- Service Providers 

EAT:

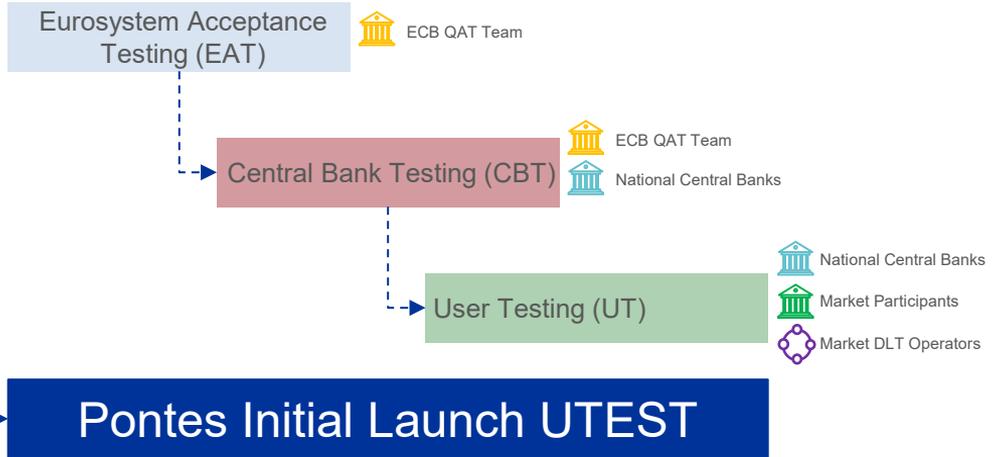
- ECB Testing Team 

CBT:

- ECB Testing Team 
- National Central Banks 

UT:

- National Central Banks 
- Market Participants 
- Market DLT Operators 



Testing in one **single shared** test environment



Testing Timeline for Pontes Initial Launch



* 11.09.26 cut-off date refers to the mandatory testing to be conducted by CBs and market participants using Pontes Initial Launch immediately as of its Go-live

Eurosystem Acceptance Testing (EAT)



After successful conclusion of Service Providing Central Banks' testing (IAT)



Based on Business Description Document (BDD), Service Description



ECB-Team testing as a user of Eurosystem-provided infrastructure



One single Test Environment, shared with other actors



Outcome: Recommend the start of subsequent CBT (before 01/07/26) and UT (before 01/08/26) testing phases and provide input for ECB Market Infrastructure Board Go-live decision for Pontes Initial Launch



ECB team to regular report to Pontes Working Group and Pontes Market Contact Group

Time window planned for EAT phase: 18/05/26 – 31/08/26

Central Bank Testing (CBT)



CBT is mandatory for NCBs owning a node and with market participants, market DLT operator



Starts after successful conclusion of a first EAT phase



Confirms that Pontes Initial Launch is interacting with T2-RTGS as planned and provides assurance on the end-to-end consistency of the business processes and operational procedures



NCB allows the start of UT for its participants (Market Participants and Market DLT Operators)



ECB team consolidates NCB testing feedback to regular report to Pontes Working Group and Pontes Market Contact Group

Time window planned for CBT phase: as of 01/07/26

User Testing (UT)



Starts after green light of the relevant NCB's
Registration process is finalized, connectivity and reference data set-up concluded for test environment



The UT results will be reported to ECB MIB as part of their Go/No Go-live decision of Pontes Initial Launch



Testing provides assurance on the end-to-end consistency of the business processes and operational procedures



User relationships (submission, collection, validation, archiving of test results) are managed at the NCB level (owning the node) responsibility

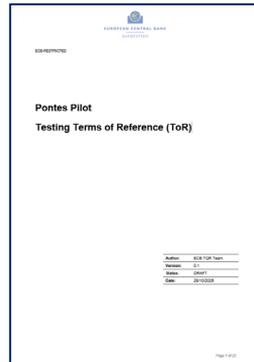


ECB team consolidates NCBs UT testing feedback to regular report to Pontes Working Group and Pontes Market Contact Group

Time window planned for UT phase: as of 01/08/26

Testing Terms of Reference (ToR)

- ✓ Outlines **principles for preparation, organisation** and **execution** of all testing phases for Pontes Initial Launch
- ✓ **Covers the communication flow:** Market Participants/Market DLT Operators to address their requests to their National Central Bank's Service Desk (NSD) who contacts 4CB Service Desk in case of need (as per the TARGET Services process)
- ✓ **Valid for all three testing stages**, sharing a single test environment, connected to T2 UTEST environment to enable for the funding and defunding process:
- ✓ Eurosystem Acceptance Testing (**EAT**) conducted by the ECB QAT Team
- ✓ Central Bank Testing (**CBT**) conducted by the National Central Banks
- ✓ User Testing (**UT**) conducted by Market Participants and Market DLT Operators
- ✓ **Includes operational testing aspects**
- ✓ Currently under Eurosystem review, publication planned for 01/06/2026





Status of EAT preparation

- ✓ Test cases for the EAT are:
 - ✓ Based on the **Business Description Document** (BDD) and **Service Description** (SD)
 - ✓ Covering various functional clusters (cf. next slide) of the Pontes Initial Launch
 - ✓ Planned to be made available shortly before the start of EAT functional test phase starting on 18/05

- ✓ Connectivity:
 - ✓ Preparing connection and reference data
 - ✓ Setting up tooling/network for API interaction with the test environment for Pontes Initial Launch endpoints (URLs tbc)

EAT Test Cases: functional clusters covered

Functional Cluster	Domain
Authentication	Interfaces and technical connectivity
Authorisation (Privileges and Roles enforcement)	Interfaces and technical connectivity
U2A connectivity	Interfaces and technical connectivity
A2A connectivity (API)	Interfaces and technical connectivity
RTGS Accounts	Reference Data
Participants	Reference Data
Users	Reference Data
Wallets (including mapping)	Reference Data
Calendar and settlement day schedule	Reference Data
Funding and Defunding	Settlement
Wallet to Wallet movement	Settlement
Payment (direct settlement in T2)	Settlement
XvP processing (with HashLink)	Settlement
Payment free of Delivery (PFoD)	Settlement
Special Scenarios (blocked participant, closing days)	Settlement
Static Data Queries	Information Management
Dynamic Data Queries	Information Management



Participating in Pontes Initial Launch Testing

For participation in Pontes Initial Launch, your **National Central Bank** is the relevant point of contact.

For further information on registration requirements and timeline, please contact your NCB.

Based on a recent survey conducted in the Eurosystem, the following **indicative** participation is planned:

NCBs = 14 including 5 without participants

Market participants = 31

Market DLT Operators = 13

Mandatory certification test cases will be discussed and agreed in the Eurosystem in March 2026; certification of participants will be performed and managed by the responsible NCBs.